

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS, AR

SUBJECT: ARMY STATES OPPOSITION TO CREATION OF EXTRAORDINARY
ARMED FORCES

REF BA 2800 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF LOPEZ AUFRANC ISSUED COMMUNIQUE ON APR 27 WHICH STATED ARMY OPPOSITION TO CREATION OF ANY ARMED ORGANIZATION OTHER THAN PRESENT ARMED FORCES. DECLARATION PROMPTED BY RUMORED RECRUITMENT FOR EXTRA- OFFICIAL DEFENSE FORCES TO PROTECT POSSIBLE FUTURE EXTREMIST TARGETS IN MILITARY RANKS, AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, BY CONTROVERSY OVER ANNOUNCED PERONIST YOUTH PLANS TO CREATE POPULAR MILITIAS. END SUMMARY.

2. EARLY MORNING APR 27 ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, MAJGEN ALCIDES LOPEZ AUFRANC, ISSUED COMMUNIQUE WHICH STATED ARMY' S FIRM OPPOSITION TO CREATION OF " ANY TYPE OF ARMED ORGANIZATION OTHER THAN TRADITIONAL ARMED FORCES."

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3. COMMUNIQUE WAS PROMPTED BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON TWO FRONTS. FIRST WAS PUBLICATION IN APR 22 CLARIN OF REPORT (DENIED BY LOPEZ AUFRANC) THAT RECRUITMENT IS UNDER WAY FOR EXTRA- OFFICIAL DEFENSE GROUPS WHOSE MISSION WILL BE TO PROTECT FRIENDS WITHIN MILITARY FROM POSSIBLE FUTURE EXTREMIST REPRISALS. SECOND, AND PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT, IS CURRENT FLAP OVER PERONIST YOUTH LEADER RODOLFO GALIMBERTI' S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO CREATE " POPULAR MILITIAS" (SEE REFTEL), ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF DOUBTS CONCERNING THE MILITIAS' TRUE RASION D' ETRE AND WHETHER OR NOT YOUTHS WOULD BE ARMED.

4. COMMENT. GALIMBERTI HIMSELF HAS BEEN FORCED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TO TEMPER HIS ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON THE MILITIA, THE MOST RECENT BEING UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN MADRID APR 26 (SEE BA 2941) TO MEET WITH EX- PRESIDENT PERON IN WHICH HE DENIED THAT THE MILITIA WOULD BE ARMED. MEANWHILE, OTHER PERONIST YOUTH LEADERS IN ARGENTINA HAVE PUBLICLY STATED THEIR INTENTION TO GO THROUGH WITH THE CREATION OF THE MILITIA DESPITE KNOWN MILITARY CONCERN.

5. MAINSTREAM PERONISTS HAVE BEEN CONSPICUOUSLY SILENT IN REGARDS TO GALIMBERTI' S LATEST SCHEME, PRESUMABLY WAITING TO TAKE THEIR CUE FROM PERON. THE MILITARY, WHICH DOES NOT OPERATE UNDER SUCH CONSTRAINTS, HAS MADE ITS OPPOSITION TO THE MILITIA IDEA KNOWN IN VERY CLEAR TERMS.
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